

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

ADEBANKE ADEDIRAN, L.P.N. License # 26NP05776900

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Adebanke Adediran ("Respondent") is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. On or about August 29, 2014, the Board sent Respondent a letter of inquiry to her address of record by certified and regular mail, asking for information and documentation concerning an arrest for simple assault on July 27, 2014, as well as information about her nursing practice, and asking for documentation of all continuing education completed during the last three years.

- 3. The receipt of the certified mailing of the letter of inquiry was signed upon delivery to Respondent's address. The regular mailing was not returned. The Board received no response.
- 4. Respondent indicated on her 2014 renewal application that she would have completed nursing continuing education requirements for the June 1, 2012 May 31, 2014 licensing cycle by May 31, 2014.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Respondent's failure to respond to a Board inquiry constitutes a failure to cooperate within the intendment of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 13:45C-1.2, -1.3, subjecting Respondent to sanctions pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 45:1-21(e).

Respondent's failure to document compliance with continuing education requirements for the June 1, 2012 – May 31, 2014 licensing cycle is deemed to constitute a violation of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 13:37-5.3, subjecting Respondent to sanctions pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 45:1-21(e) and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 45:1-21(h).

Respondent's indication on her 2014 renewal application that she would have timely completed required continuing education by May 31, 2014 is deemed to constitute misrepresentation in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

## **DISCUSSION**

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline seeking a suspension, reprimand, and seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750) in civil penalties was entered on February 12, 2015. Copies were served upon Respondent via regular and certified mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day following entry unless

Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated findings of fact and conclusions of law by setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order of Discipline by providing all the information originally requested by the Board in its letter of inquiry. Respondent did not address why she had failed to respond to the letter of inquiry. She provided evidence that the criminal case had been dismissed. Regarding continuing education, Respondent provided documentation of completion of the following:

0 hours within the June 1, 2012 – May 31, 2014 renewal period; and 30 hours within June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2016 renewal period.

The Board reviewed Respondent's submissions and determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that no material discrepancies had been raised. The Board was not persuaded that the submitted materials merited further consideration, as Respondent did not dispute the findings of fact or conclusions of law. Inasmuch as Respondent provided the information originally requested and completed thirty hours of continuing education to cure the deficiency of the June 1, 2012 – May 31, 2012 renewal period, the Board determined that suspension was no longer warranted. However, the Board determined that Respondent's failure to respond to the original inquiry, thereby necessitating the filing of the Provisional Order of Discipline, and review of Respondent's subsequent reply one year later, warrants imposition of a five hundred dollar (\$500) civil penalty. Similarly, Respondent's failure to timely complete required

continuing education warrants imposition of a two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250) civil penalty, as well as a reprimand for Respondent's corresponding misrepresentation on her 2014 renewal application where she certified that she had timely completed the required continuing education when she is unable to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, that she did so. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this day of

## **ORDERED** that:

- A public reprimand is hereby imposed upon Respondent for the violation 1. of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).
- 2. A seven hundred and fifty dollar (\$750) civil penalty is hereby imposed which is an aggragate penalty and includes a five hundred dollar (\$500) civil penalty for the violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2, -1.3, as well as a two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250) civil penalty for the violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3. Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to State Board of Nursing, Attention: Leslie Burgos, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than twenty-one (21) days after the date of filing of this Final Order of Discipline. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.
- Continuing education hours completed after May 31, 2014 and applied to 3. cure the deficiency of a previous biennial period (the 30 hours completed on March 5,

2015) shall not also be used to satisfy the requirements of the current biennial period.

Respondent shall complete an additional 30 hours of continuing education prior to May 31, 2016 to satisfy the requirements of the June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2016 biennial period.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN

**Board President**